

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 15, 2002, claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Ghori (U.S. Patent No. 6,282,714-B1) and claims 3-5 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ghori in view of Spaur (U.S. Patent No. 5,732,074).

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 are amended for clarification, not for reasons related to patentability. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. A Version with Markings to Show Changes Made to the claims is included herewith.

Claim 9 is cancelled.

Claims 1-8 are pending and under consideration.

Rejections of claims 1, 2, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102

Ghori discusses a receiver receiving a degraded signal through a link because the received signal is composed of a number of signals that correspond to the same transmitted signal but reach the receiver through a variety of paths. That is, such a link does not offer protection against signal degradation due to the multi-path phenomena (column 2, lines 16-24 of Ghori). To solve the above problem of the prior art, Ghori discusses a spread spectrum transceiver utilizing spread spectrum modulation to modulate signals (column 7, lines 14-15 of Ghori). This distribution pattern is based on either direct sequence coding or frequency hopping. In frequency hopping, a transmitter transmits at a particular frequency for a short time interval, then switches to another frequency for another short interval, and so on. Only the receiver knows the random frequency selection sequencing (column 7, lines 20-32 of Ghori).

In contrast to the related art, the present invention provides bi-direction communications at low costs which are limited to a specified local area by utilizing a simple INTERNET technology that enables the users to transmit readily information to each other in the same manner as receiving the information (refer to the present specification, page 2, line 22-page 3, line 6). In the present invention, a local area information terminal comprises a file storing unit storing a file previously created by a transmitter, a channel retrieving unit retrieving a free channel among broadcasting channels allocated to respective frequency bandwidths, a channel

selecting unit selecting a free channel among a plurality of free channels, and a transmitting unit for transmitting the file as broadcasting data stored in the file storing unit to within a local area via the selected channel (refer to the present specification, page 3, lines 7-15).

In contrast to Ghori, claim 1 of the present application recites "a channel retrieving unit retrieving a free channel among broadcasting channels allocated to respective frequency bandwidths", "a channel selecting unit making, when there exist a plurality of free channels, a transmitter select a free channel", and "a transmitting unit transmitting the file as broadcasting data stored in said file storing unit to within a local area via the selected channel".

In addition, claim 6 of the present application recites "a channel retrieving unit retrieving a free channel among broadcasting channels allocated to respective frequency bandwidths", "a transmitting unit transmitting the file as broadcasting data stored in said file storing unit to within a local area via the retrieved channel", "a retrieving unit retrieving a channel through which the broadcasting data can be reached within the local area", and "a selecting unit selecting, when the broadcasting data different from each other are being transmitted via the plurality of channels, a receiving channel".

In addition to the features recited in claim 1 of the present application, claim 2 recites patentably distinguishing features of its own. Claim 2 recites "a cipher processing unit, wherein the file read from said file storing unit is encrypted by said cipher processing unit and thereafter transmitted from said transmitting unit".

Ghori does not discuss or suggest the foregoing features of the present invention. Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections of claims 3-5, 7, and 8 under 35 USC 103

Spaur discloses a mobile wireless communication system used with the Internet.

The combination of Ghori and Spaur would be a spread spectrum transceiver utilizing spread spectrum modulation to modulate signals in which a mobile wireless communication system is involved.

In contrast to the foregoing references relied upon, claim 4 of the present application recites "a retrieving unit retrieving a channel through which the broadcasting data can be received", "a selecting unit selecting, when the broadcasting data different from each other are

being transmitted via the plurality of channels, a receiving channel", and "a displaying unit [for] displaying the broadcasting data received by the selected channel".

In addition to the recitations of the independent claims from which they depend, claims 3, 5, 7, and 8 recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. For example, claim 5/4 recites "a cipher processing unit, if the broadcasting data received have been encrypted, decoding the encrypted data by decrypting the same data".

Neither Ghori nor Spaur, either alone or in combination, discusses or suggests the foregoing features of the present invention.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claim 9.

Please AMEND the following claims:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal comprising:

a file storing unit [for] storing a file previously created;

a channel retrieving unit [for] retrieving a free channel among broadcasting channels allocated to respective frequency bandwidths;

a channel selecting unit [for] making, when there exist a plurality of free channels, a transmitter select a free channel; and

a transmitting unit [for] transmitting the file as broadcasting data stored in said file storing unit to within a local area via the selected channel.

2. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal according to claim 1, further comprising a cipher processing unit,

wherein the file read from said file storing unit is encrypted by said cipher processing unit and thereafter transmitted from said transmitting unit.

3. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal according to claim 1, wherein the file is a file in an HTML format.

4. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal [for] selectively receiving broadcasting information transmitted via a plurality of channels within a local area, said terminal comprising:

a retrieving unit [for] retrieving a channel through which the broadcasting data can be received;

a selecting unit [for] selecting, when the broadcasting data different from each other are being transmitted via the plurality of channels, a receiving channel;

a displaying unit [for] displaying the broadcasting data received by the selected channel;
an identifier storing unit [for] extracting an identifier for specifying a transmitter out of the broadcasting data and storing the identifier;
a mail editing unit [for] creating a return message to the transmitter on the basis of the transmitter identifier read from said identifier storing unit; and
a returning unit [for] returning the mail created by said mail editing unit.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal according to claim 4, further comprising[, in addition to said unit given above,] a cipher processing unit[,

wherein said cipher processing unit], if the broadcasting data received have been encrypted, [decodes] decoding the encrypted data by decrypting the same data.

6. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal capable of transmitting and receiving broadcasting data within a local area, comprising:

a file storing unit [for] storing a file previously created;
a channel retrieving unit [for] retrieving a free channel among broadcasting channels allocated to respective frequency bandwidths;
a transmitting unit [for] transmitting the file as broadcasting data stored in said file storing unit to within a local area via the retrieved channel;
a retrieving unit [for] retrieving a channel through which the broadcasting data can be received within the local area;
a selecting unit [for] selecting, when the broadcasting data different from each other are being transmitted via the plurality of channels, a receiving channel; and
a displaying unit [for] displaying the broadcasting data received the selected channel.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal capable of transmitting and receiving broadcasting data within a local area according to claim 6, further comprising:

a mail editing unit [for] creating a return mail to a transmitter of the broadcasting data received; and

a returning unit for returning the return mail.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) A local area information terminal capable of transmitting and receiving broadcasting data within a local area according to claim 7, further comprising

a identifier storing unit [for] extracting an identifier for specifying a transmitter out of the broadcasting data and storing the identifier,

wherein said mail editing unit sets a return destination of the return mail to the transmitter on the basis of the transmitter identifier read from said identifier storing unit.